



Bishop's Stortford Urban District
Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1958

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Members of the Council, 1958-1959

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Public Health Department

EIRWEN M. JONES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

A. L. GOOD, F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E., A.I.Hsg.,

Chief Public Health Inspector

Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

H. W. CHILDS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,

Additional Public Health Inspector

Miss J. RODGERS,

Clerk/Shorthand Typist

A. TURNER,

Rodent Operator

Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council

Public Health Department,
The Council House,
Bishop's Stortford,

June, 1959

*To the Chairman and Members,
Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. SPARROW AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to submit the following Report for the year 1958, on the health of the Bishop's Stortford Urban District which has been drawn up on the lines indicated in the Circular issued by the Ministry of Health.

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of 16,290 shows an increase of 950 over last year. This compares with an increase of 790 during 1957.

The birth rate was lower than the previous year as was also the death rate, which continued to decline for the fourth year in succession. The infantile mortality rate represents the lowest figure ever recorded for Bishop's Stortford, there being only one infant death. This infant died within two hours of birth as a result of a congenital defect.

The measles epidemic continued during January, February and March but thereafter notifications fell sharply. Poliomyelitis was most conspicuous by its absence and only two notifications of Whooping Cough were received.

It is pleasing to record another year of good health and to express our thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council and all our colleagues, for the help and encouragement we have received.

We are,

Your obedient Servants,

EIRWEN M. JONES,

Medical Officer of Health

A. L. GOOD,

Chief Public Health Inspector

SECTION A

Statistics

(1) General

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	3,826
Population	...	...	...	...	16,290
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£204,435
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£893
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	5,217
Density of Persons per Acre	...	...	...	...	4.26
„ Houses	„	...	...	...	1.36
Average Number of Occupants per House	...	...	...	...	3.12

(2) Vital

	Birth Rate per 1,000 population	Death Rate per 1,000 population	Infantile Mortality Rate Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births
England and Wales	16.4	11.7	22.5
Bishop's Stortford	18.11	9.88	3.39

BIRTHS

Number of Legitimate Births	...	282
„ Illegitimate Births	...	13
Percentage of Illegitimate Births to Total Births	...	4.4
Total Number of Births, <i>Males</i>	153	
<i>Females</i>	142	295

DEATHS

Total Number of Deaths	...	161
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(3) Mortality Table

Causes of Death		Males	Females	Total
	All Causes	81	80	161
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	1	—	1
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	—	1	1
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections ...	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	1	1
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	—	1	1
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	1	6
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	—	3	3
13	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	—	—	—
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	6	10	16
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1	1
16	Diabetes	1	1	2
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	13	13	26
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	18	11	29
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	2	3
20	Other Heart Disease	3	8	11
21	Other Circulatory Disease ...	4	3	7
22	Influenza	1	—	1
23	Pneumonia	3	7	10
24	Bronchitis	7	1	8
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	1	1
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1	3
27	Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea ...	1	3	4
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	—	—
31	Congenital Malformations	—	1	1
32	Other defined and ill defined Diseases	11	7	18
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—	1
34	All other Accidents	1	—	1
35	Suicide	—	1	1
36	Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
	Still Births	1	4	5
	Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age (ONE under 4 weeks of age)	—	1	1

SECTION B

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

(1) Notifiable Diseases

Notifications of the following infectious diseases were received during the year:

			All Ages	Under 1 year	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 60	Over Sixty
Dysentery ...	...	...	5	1	—	1	—	—	1	2	—
Erysipelas ...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	...	...	6	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	—
Malaria ...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles ...	...	...	304	14	85	104	93	4	—	4	—
Paratyphoid ...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia ...	...	...	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	11	—	—	4	7	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—
Whooping Cough...	...	...	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Dysentery ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles ...	148	96	34	6	5	2	2	6	—	2	2	1
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis ...	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The measles epidemic which commenced during the preceding year continued during the early months of 1958. The symptoms were not unduly severe and there were few complications.

Six cases of Infective Hepatitis were notified during the year, two of these being isolated cases and the source of infection was unknown. During October a notification was received that a sixteen year old boarder at a local boys school had developed Jaundice. It is probable that his infection was contracted abroad where he spent a holiday with a brother who simultaneously developed symptoms. Within twenty-five days another boy from the same house developed Jaundice, and after a further twenty-five days two more boys had symptoms. These four lived in the same house, where they also fed and three of them shared the same dormitory. Fortunately, further cases did not occur.

The low incidence of whooping cough during the year was highly satisfactory. Two children only were concerned and were both under two years of age. They had been immunised and the attacks were mild.

During March Scarlet Fever notifications were received concerning children attending a nursery school and following consultations with the head teacher routine nose and throat swabbing of fifty children and two members of the staff was carried out. Eight children and one adult were found to have positive results for haemolytic streptococci, and following treatment from their practitioners were allowed to return to school.

(2) Tuberculosis

	MALES		FEMALES	
	Pul.	Non.-P.	Pul.	Non.-P.
Cases on Register at 31.12.57 ...	39	5	39	10
Number of cases notified during year ...	2	2	—	2
Number of cases restored during year ...	—	—	—	—
Inward transfer ...	5	—	7	—
Cases removed ...	4	1	1	1
Cases on Register at 31.12.58 ...	42	6	45	11

(3) Mass Radiography

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the town during the year, the survey being planned to take place from June 19th to 26th inclusive. It was unfortunate that the unit suffered a breakdown and was unable to start the survey until June 20th continuing until June 26th. The weather was particularly inclement and this factor contributed largely to the somewhat

disappointing final figure. In a community with a total population of over sixteen thousand, a greater proportion of the public should have availed themselves of this free and truly preventive service.

All the sessions except one, were open to the public and parties from works and factories were not organised as on previous occasions. The County Education Authority once again did not consider it necessary for school children to attend in groups.

The total number of attendances was 2188 as compared with 2246 at the 1955 Survey. Brief statistical details of the survey are shown in the following tables.

Miniature Films Taken

1955			1958		
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1025	1221	2246	948	1240	2188

Abnormalities Discovered

Defect	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Active) ...	1	1	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Inactive) ...	1	—	1
Carcinoma of the Bronchus...	1	—	1
Cardiovascular Lesions (Congenital)...	1	1	2
Cardiovascular Lesions (Acquired) ...	—	1	1
Total ...	4	3	7

(4) Food Poisoning

Three individuals became infected by *Salmonella Typhimurium* during the year. They were isolated cases and the source of infection was unknown.

(5) Dysentery

Five notifications of Sonne Dysentery were received during the year. Three cases arose in one household and it was necessary to maintain strict control as one patient worked in a canteen, another was connected with nursing and the third was a school child.

One notification concerned a student who, with several others, had contracted the infection in Italy. Several members of the party also developed similar symptoms.

(6) Prophylactic Measures

This work, as in previous years, was carried out by the County Health Authority through the Infant Welfare Centre and private practitioners. Vaccines were available for the following:—

1. *Whooping Cough and Diphtheria.* Combined vaccines were not used at the Welfare Centre and the practice of using separate vaccines continued.
2. *Poliomyelitis.* The Poliomyelitis inoculation campaign continued and it was found possible to extend the programme when supplies of Salk vaccine became available.
3. *Tuberculosis.* The practise of offering inoculation to the 13 year old age group in all schools with B.C.G. vaccine continued.

(7) National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

It was not necessary to take legal action under this Act during the year

(8) Refuse Disposal

The disposal of refuse was continued by means of tipping on the Council's own refuse tip, pest control measures being maintained by the Public Health Department.

(9) Drainage and Sewerage

The work of relaying the South Street sewer did not commence during the year, but there was every indication that work would start during the summer of 1959.

One house was connected to the Council's public sewer during the year, the previous method of drainage being unsatisfactory.

(10) Water supply

The Council's water undertaking was purchased by the Herts and Essex Water Company with effect from 1st October, 1958. This represents one step towards the Government's policy of the regionalisation of all water undertakings.

27 samples of drinking water were submitted for bacteriological examination and all but one sample were reported upon as satisfactory. A follow-up sample taken in respect of the unsatisfactory sample was subsequently found to be satisfactory.

Internal water supplies were provided in respect of nine houses where sinks had been installed and these constitute further steps towards the abolition of external stand pipes.

(11) Swimming Pools

54 samples of water were taken from the Council's swimming pool together with five samples from the indoor and outdoor swimming pools at Bishop's Stortford College and submitted for bacteriological examination. All the samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

SECTION C

Public Health Administration

(1) Inspection of the District

5,891 visits were made during the year in connection with all aspects of the work of the Department, fuller details of which are given below. This constitutes a record and compares with 4,080 visits carried out during 1957.

These figures are most encouraging because the very presence of the Public Health Inspector has a solutory effect in many places and, at the same time, helps to improve personal relationships and that spirit of friendly co-operation which is so essential in maintaining good local government administration.

622 complaints were received and this compares with 549 during 1957. This is not to say that residents have developed a complaining attitude, but rather perhaps, that in a rapidly expanding town, people are making more use of the facilities of the local authority.

Total number of Visits	5,891
Dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	1,567
Revisits to houses for housing defects	1,684
Houses inspected—overcrowding	1
Premises inspected on Complaint or Nuisance	58
Drainage and Drain Tests	140
Stables and Piggeries	25
Markets	151
Factories (Power and Non-Power)	19
Factories Act—Building Sites	2
Outworkers	5
Workplaces, Offices and Shops	22
Schools	5
Moveable Dwellings	10
Water Supply and Sampling	47
Swimming Pool and Sampling	18
Places of Entertainment	1
Infectious Diseases and Disinfection	98
Refuse Disposal	8
Rodent Control	77
Atmospheric Pollution	36
Vermin and Insect Pests	40
Petroleum	102
Miscellaneous Housing and Sanitary Visits	88

Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	202
Rent Act Visits	2
Meat and Food Inspection—Slaughterhouses	638
Shops and Stalls	58
Wholesalers, Canteens, etc.	3
Butchers	56
Dairies and Milk Distributors	3
Fish Shops	2
Cafes, Restaurants and Canteens	46
Bakers	13
Grocers	66
Ice Cream Premises	7
Greengrocers	7
Licensed Premises	12
Street Markets	386
Food Preparing Premises	3
Sugar Confectionery	10
Other Food Premises	86
Milk Sampling	49
Ice Cream Sampling	15
Other Foods Sampling	9
Miscellaneous	14

(2) Special Premises

Particulars of the number and type of all the special premises on the register at the end of 1958 are given below.

Factories

(a) With Mechanical Power	102
(b) Without Mechanical Power	6

Food Premises

Bakers	6
Butchers	16
Canteens	
(a) Schools	17
(b) Factories	3
(c) Hospitals	2
Clubs	
(a) Non-Licensed	9
(b) Licensed	12
Dairymen and Dairies	3
Fishmongers	
(a) Wet and Fried Fish	3
(b) Wet Fish	2
(c) Fried Fish	2
Greengrocers	10

Grocers						
(a) Non-Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	39
(b) Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	35
Restaurants						
(a) Non-Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	15
(b) Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sugar Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	11
<i>Non Food Shops</i>						
Boots and Shoes	...	...	...	...	...	7
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	6
Clothiers	...	...	...	...	...	19
Electrical Goods	...	...	...	...	...	4
Furnishers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	11
Ironmongers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Jewellers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Leather Goods	...	...	...	...	...	4
Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	3
Newsagents	...	...	...	...	...	3
Opticians	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pet Shops and Seed Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	4
Radio and Television	...	...	...	...	...	7
Stationers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Toys	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wall Paper	...	...	...	...	...	3
<i>Workplaces</i>	...	...	...	...	...	28
(3) Complaints and Matters Referred						
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	622
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	568
Complaints referred to other Departments and Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	54
Other matters referred to other Departments and Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	15
(4) Testing of Drains and Sanitary Fittings						
Drains tested with water	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drains tested with other means	...	...	...	...	...	55
(5) Notices Served and the Results of the Service of such Notices						
		No.	No.			
(a) <i>Preliminary Notices</i>		Served	plied with			
(i) Dwelling Houses for Housing Defects	240		130			
(ii) Special Premises (shops, factories, etc.)	8		12			
(b) <i>Statutory Notices</i>						

See Housing Section for Details.

N.B.—The number of notices complied with includes notices outstanding from the previous year.

(6) Summary of Improvements Effected

	At Dwelling Houses	At Food Premises	At Shops, Offices, Hotels, etc.
Accumulations removed	3	1	—
Ceilings repaired	32	4	—
Chimney stacks repaired or renewed	49	—	—
Dampness remedied	9	—	—
Disinfections	1	—	—
Doorsteps provided or improved ...	11	—	—
Doors repaired or renewed	41	2	—
Drains cleared or repaired	11	—	—
Drain inspection chambers provided, renewed or improved	6	—	—
Drains laid or drains relaid	4	1	—
Drain ventilation provided or im- proved	7	—	—
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed...	32	1	3
External decoration... ..	2	—	—
Fireplaces repaired or renewed ...	21	—	—
Floors repaired or renewed	49	3	—
Food stores provided or improved ...	8	—	—
Garden walls or fences provided or improved	7	—	—
Handrails provided to stairs	25	—	—
Outbuildings or other structures de- molished	—	—	—
Roofs repaired	43	1	1
Rooms redecorated and cleansed ...	19	9	—
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	25	—	2
Staircases repaired or renewed ...	8	2	—
Sub-floor ventilation improved ...	1	—	—
Ventilation improved (air brick) ...	7	—	—
Wall plaster repaired	69	4	—
Walls repaired or renewed (Internal)	53	6	—
Walls repaired or renewed (Ex- ternal)	102	—	—
Washing coppers provided or im- proved	1	—	—
WATER CLOSETS			
Cisterns repaired	12	1	—
Compartments provided/rebuilt ...	—	1	—
Flushpipe joints repaired	5	—	—
Improved	26	2	—
Pedestals provided	14	1	—
Seats repaired or renewed	11	—	—
WATER SUPPLY			
Gulleys provided	9	—	—
Hot water supply provided or im- proved	4	6	—
Internal water supply provided ...	9	1	—
Sinks, baths or basins provided ...	21	7	—
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	8	1	—
Water butts provided	1	—	—
Water supply pipes repaired or renewed	5	1	—
Water tanks—overflows repaired...	1	—	—
Windows provided or improved ...	91	3	—
Yard Paving provided or improved	36	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—
FOOD PREMISES			
Clothing lockers provided	—	2	—
Equipment provided or improved	—	4	—
First Aid kit provided	—	2	—
Food display improved	—	2	—
Food handling improved	—	3	—
Refrigerator provided	—	1	—
Soap, towels, etc. provided	—	5	—
Smoking—cautions given	—	1	—
W.C. notices posted	—	3	—

(7) Disinfection and Disinfestation

Disinfection was carried out at one premises during the year following a case of infectious disease. 31 properties were disinfested and in this connection 28 wasps nests were destroyed.

(8) Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) FOOD HYGIENE

Continuing progress towards good food hygiene was achieved, quite a number of structural improvements being effected. Many of the food premises have now taken on a "new look", some having been completely rebuilt and extended and it would seem that even in the "High Street" it is most necessary to "keep up with the Joneses". This is perhaps one instance where the Public Health Department does not mind how "infectious" these "outbreaks" become.

Food traders have long since realised that their goods must be attractively displayed in clean wholesome premises, where the risk of contamination is reduced to the absolute minimum.

(b) MILK SUPPLIES

There are four producers and four retailers of milk in Bishop's Stortford and only heat treated or tuberculin tested milk may be sold.

93 samples of bottled milk and 9 samples of cream were taken in course of delivery to the consumer during the year and submitted to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory for examination. All samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

Designation	No. of Samples Taken	No. Satis- factory	No. Unsatis- factory
Pasteurised	35	35	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	35	35	—
Sterilised	23	23	—

(c) MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE-CREAM

Fifty-three premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream and this represents an increase of two over last year.

Bacteriological Examination

Twenty samples of ice-cream and fourteen ice-lollies were submitted to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and all were reported upon as satisfactory.

(d) MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

Ten premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the preparation and manufacture of preserved food as follows:—

Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sausages and Brawn	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sausages and Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meat Pickling	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cooked Hams	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

2,519 animals were killed at the private slaughterhouse, 4, South Street and all were inspected. Details of the meat condemned are given in the tables below. It will be noted that four cases of cysticercus bovis were detected during the year, compared with six in 1957. In each case the infection was localised, the infected parts being condemned and the carcasses placed in cold storage for a period of twenty-one days.

(e) MISCELLANEOUS FOOD SAMPLING

63 samples of various foods were submitted to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory for examination and all the samples were found to be satisfactory. The samples which were taken in the course of preparation or delivery to the consumer were in respect of Bakers cheese, dressed crab, orange drink, ice-cream powder, tinned salmon, sausage improver, soup powder and "yogurt".

(f) DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

Meat condemned at the slaughterhouse was collected regularly by a reputable firm for processing and manufacture into animal foods, fertilisers, glue and soap. All other condemned food was collected and disposed of, under supervision, on the Council's controlled tip. The total amount of food condemned was considerably less than the previous year and amounted to 3.608 tons as compared with 12.45 tons during 1957.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	312	56	894	1257
Number Inspected	312	56	894	1257
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis:				
Whole carcases condemned	—	4	3	7
Weight in lb. condemned	—	210	86	492
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	77	7	19	347
Weight in lb. condemned	898	11	30	1155
Percentage affected	24.679	19.642	2.4608	28.162
Tuberculosis only:				
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	1
Weight in lb. condemned	—	—	—	121
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	—	—	29
Weight in lb. condemned	401	—	—	141
Percentage affected	3.846	—	—	2.386
Cysticercosis only:				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned	47	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	—	—	—
Generalised and totally Condemned	—	—	—	—
Weight in lb. condemned	—	—	—	—
Percentage affected	1.282	—	—	—

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OTHER FOODS ...

Meat	3,592 lb. or 1.604 tons
Other Foods	4,490 lb. or 2.004 tons
Total	8,082 lb. or 3.608 tons

DETAILS OF MEAT CONDEMNED

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Heads & Tongues	190 lbs.	—	—	144 lbs.	334 lbs.
Lungs ...	265 lbs.	12 lbs.	17 lbs.	370 lbs.	664 lbs.
Hearts ...	23 lbs.	6 lbs.	3 lbs.	99 lbs.	131 lbs.
Livers ...	730 lbs.	9 lbs.	19 lbs.	368 lbs.	1126 lbs.
Kidneys ...	36 lbs.	2 lbs.	—	13 lbs.	51 lbs.
Spleens ...	12 lbs.	1 lb.	—	6 lbs.	19 lbs.
Mesenterys	49 lbs.	—	—	28 lbs.	77 lbs.
Udders ...	—	—	—	96 lbs.	96 lbs.
Legs ...	—	—	3 lbs.	164 lbs.	167 lbs.
Carcase Meat	41 lbs.	191 lbs.	74 lbs.	621 lbs.	927 lbs.
Totals ...	1346 lbs.	221 lbs.	116 lbs.	1909 lbs.	3592 lbs.

DETAILS OF FOODSTUFFS FOUND UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Description	Weight		No. of Tins	Description	Weight		No. of Tins
	lb.	oz.			lb.	oz.	
Apples ...	91	9	15	Meat Pies (48)	15	—	—
Apricots ...	520	8	68	Milk ...	27	3	37
Baby Food ...	2	3	7	Mixed Vege-			
Bananas ...	718	—	—	tables	45	15	14
Beans ...	53	12	67	Mutton ...	95	4	22
Beef (Meat) ...	167	8	—	Oranges ...	11	—	16
Beef (Pressed)	35	—	—	Peaches ...	147	2	72
Beef (Tinned)	154	8	31	Pears ...	9	4	6
Beetroot ...	—	7	1	Peas ...	193	9	165
Blackcurrants	5	—	5	Pineapple ...	23	—	13
Cheese ...	35	—	—	Plums ...	117	13	68
Cherries, 22 Bxs	264	—	—	Pork (Meat) ...	248	8	—
Cherries, Tin'd	9	6	8	Pork (Tinned)	100	8	28
Chicken ...	2	3	1	Potatoes (New)	168	—	—
Cod Fillet ...	28	—	—	Poultry ...	3	—	—
Coffee ...	—	1	1	Prawns ...	41	8	—
Corned Beef ...	284	4	65	Preserves ...	40	—	18
Crabs ...	7	—	—	Prunes ...	5	—	—
Cream ...	—	6	1	Puff Pastry			
Fish ...	27	7	33	(9 pkts.)	9	—	—
Golden Syrup ...	2	—	1	Rice ...	—	15	1
Gooseberries ...	7	4	2	Sausages ...	18	—	—
Grapefruit ...	6	10	5	Soup ...	73	9	78
Ham ...	343	7	25	Spaghetti ...	1	8	2
Jellied Veal ...	6	—	1	Stewed Steak	2	—	2
Lamb ...	38	—	—	Tomatoes ...	229	7	194
Luncheon Meat	49	15	28	Tongue			
Meat Paste				(Pressed)	5	—	—
(2 Jars)	—	4	—	Totals ...	4490	11	1101

(9) Rodent Control

(i) Disinfestation of Sewers

The sewer maintenance treatment was carried out in September following a 10% test baiting at the end of August. Baits were laid in twenty manholes but in only one instance was the bait completely eaten. The Conclusion to be drawn from the results of the test baiting and treatment is that the sewers are not seriously rat infested.

(ii) Disinfestation of Surface Properties

Number of Dwelling Houses treated ...	...	219
„ Business Premises treated ...	...	95
„ Council Premises treated ...	...	30
„ Agricultural Premises treated ...	...	11
„ Pre-baits laid ...	...	965
„ Pre-baits partly taken ...	...	301
„ „ completely taken ...	...	367
„ Poison Baits laid ...	...	2,164
„ „ „ partly taken ...	...	1,017
„ „ „ completely taken ...	...	153
„ Bodies recovered (a) rats ...	...	331
„ „ (b) mice ...	...	123
Total number of visits made by the operator		2,108

(10) The Storage of Petroleum Spirit

Sixty-one premises were licensed for the storage of Petroleum Spirit and Fees received by the Council in respect of these licences amounted to £41 15s. 0d.

(11) The Provision of Dustbins

583 dustbins were provided during the year in connection with the scheme operated by the Council. This compares with 778 issued during 1957 making a total supplied since the inception of the scheme in July, 1954, of 2,932. The scheme continues to operate smoothly and satisfactorily.

(12) Pet Animals Act, 1951

Three licences were renewed by the Council during the year in respect of the keeping of pet shops.

(13) Factories Act, 1937

Twenty-one visits were made to the factories on the register and it was found necessary in four instances to serve informal notices where contraventions existed.

Twenty-nine outworkers were employed during the year by the various factories in the district.

Two certificates of adequate means of escape in case of fire were issued by the local authority, one of these being an amended certificate.

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	6	2	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	102	17	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	11	2	—	—
TOTAL ...	119	21	4	—

2. CASES in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (s 1) ...	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (s 2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (s 3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (s 4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (s 6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (s 7) :					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	3	3	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	5	5	—	—	—

(14) Housing

Number of new houses erected during the year : —

(a) By the local Authority	...	...	...	—
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	287

Number of Houses made available by conversion or adaptation of existing buildings	...	2
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HOUSES RENDERED FIT—HOUSING ACT, 1957

No. 90, Dunmow Road was rendered fit by the owner, following the service of a Statutory Notice under Section 9, Housing Act, 1957.

HOUSES CLOSED

Wharf Cottage, Dell Lane and 64, London Road were closed during the year pending ultimate demolition.

HOUSES DEMOLISHED

94, 96, Dunmow Road, 137, 139, Stansted Road and 9, Trinity Street were demolished during the year.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT SURVEY

The detailed housing survey which commenced during the previous year was continued and by the end of 1958, a total of 826 houses had been inspected. A summary of the details collated from the survey is given below. It will be noted that 53 houses were found to be fully improved, 51 were considered to be unsuitable for improvement and 722 required improvements as listed under the various headings.

240 Informal Notices in respect of housing defects were served, 130 of which had been fully complied with by the end of the year. The majority of these notices arose as a direct result of the survey and it is worthy to note that 895 housing defects were remedied.

This is most useful work and the timely attention to repairs often prevents more serious deterioration.

SUMMARY OF DETAILS

	Rented Houses	Owner Occup'rs	Totals
1. Houses Fully Improved ...	8	45	53
2. Houses not suitable for Improvement	38	13	51
Houses Requiring the Undermentioned Improvements			
3. Bath. Wash hand basin. Internal Water closet. Ventilated food store. Internal water supply. Sink. Electric lighting. Hot water supply. ...	28	9	37
4. Bath. Wash hand basin. Internal water closet. Ventilated food store. Hot water supply. Electric lighting.	103	15	118
5. Bath. Wash hand basin. Internal water closet. Ventilated food store. Hot water supply.	174	117	291
6. Bath. Wash hand basin. Internal water closet. Hot water supply	51	29	80
7. Bath. Wash hand basin. Internal water closet. Hot water supply. Electric lighting. ...	9	2	11
8. Bath. Wash hand basin. Ventilated food store. Hot water supply.	9	9	18
9. Bath. Wash hand basin. Hot water supply.	1	6	7
10. Wash hand basin. Internal water closet. Ventilated food store.	16	25	41
11. Wash hand basin. Internal water closet.	2	5	7
12. Wash hand basin. Ventilated food store.	8	14	22
13. Wash hand basin	13	3	16
14. Internal water closet. Ventilated food store.	7	13	20
15. Internal water closet.	1	9	10
16. Ventilated food store.	7	37	44
Total Number of Houses Inspected	475	351	826